

THE BOOMERANG

A Newsletter for VT-27 Families



Training Squadron Twenty Seven

Summer 2010

Message from the Skipper



Commanding Officer

CDR Kyle Gatzmeyer

Executive Officer

CDR Daniel Case

Summer is finally here and I hope you all get to take advantage of some vacation time to reconnect and get away from the hustle and bustle of the daily grind. As you prepare to enjoy some time off, please take a few minutes to make sure you've done your best to make your trip as safe as possible so that we all meet up this Fall as one happy and healthy squadron. My number one concern is for the safety of each and every one of you.

Another "joy" of summer is the onset of hurricane season. If you've never had to worry about hurricanes in the past, you'd better start. I'm not saying the sky is falling, but living next to the Gulf coast makes us a prime target for a future storm. In this BOOMERANG, you'll find a lot of great information and resources that will help prepare you. I would encourage you to review this material and develop a plan should a storm take a turn for the worst. You should know that if it happens, the squadron instructor pilots will be tasked with flying our aircraft to Midland, TX, at least 36 hours prior to landfall. Therefore, prior planning will save you and your spouse a great deal of concern so long as you've taken the opportunity to do so and are ready for a possible evacuation.

Lastly, thank you all for your support at home. It's not said enough, but if it weren't for a solid foundation at home, the readiness of my squadron would deteriorate. Each and every one of you play a significant role in the command's ability to do it's mission... and frankly, business is BOOMING. Hopefully, I can show my appreciation with a Spouse's T-34 Taxi familiarization ride in the very near future. More to follow on that, but for now, thank you.

Sincerely,

Skipper Gatz

Announcements

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Do you have something that you
would like to ANNOUNCE?

If so, let me know....
vt27ombudsman@yahoo.com

NEW BOOMER BABY

Capt Donahue and his wife, Elizabeth
welcomed, Rylee Elizabeth into this world on
March 24, 2010. She weighed 6 lbs.
8 oz. and was 18 in. long

CONGRATULATIONS!!

OMBUDSMAN NEWS

Hello Boomer Families,

I can't believe that 2010 is half over. Summer is approaching and the school year is coming to an end. The squadron has been busy these past couple of months especially with the Detachment to Roswell, NM and getting as many X's done here at home. Thank you for supporting your spouses in all they are doing for VT-27.

Another topic that goes along with Summer and living on the coast is HURRICANES. I can not stress enough how important storm/hurricane preparation is. The best thing you can do for your family is to have a plan prepared in the case of an immediate evacuation. I have included in this edition of THE BOOMERANG some very good information and resources. I hope that you find it educational and you take the time to prepare yourself in the event of a weather related crisis. If you have any questions regarding hurricanes or the evacuation process here at NASCC, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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Important Dates:

May 15 Armed Forces Day
May 31 Memorial Day

June 20 Father's Day
June 21 First Day of Summer

July 4 Independence Day

September 6 Labor Day

EMERGENCY MUSTERING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

In the event of a catastrophic event, it is important for each Command to manage and monitor the whereabouts of military personnel and their families. Here are a couple of ways to "muster".

1. If you are Navy personnel, you can muster through the NFAAS. I strongly encourage your military spouse to update all information on the website at <http://NavyFamily.navy.mil> Air Force can muster through <http://afpaas.af.mil>. Marines can muster through the Senior Marine. Coast Guard and Army musters through their Command.

2. If you are a Military family member, you can muster through your Command Ombudsman.

Please give her a call if you plan to evacuate. If you would like to be on the hurricane phone tree, please email your Ombudsman at vt27ombudsman@yahoo.com

WEATHER SAFETY : HURRICANES

TERMS TO KNOW

HURRICANE WATCH- Hurricane conditions are possible in the specified area of the watch, usually within 36 hours. (Instructor Pilots will fly the planes to safety at this time)

HURRICANE WARNING- Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning, usually within 24 hours.

TROPICAL STORM WATCHES and WARNINGS- Take these alerts seriously. Although Tropical Storms have lower wind speeds than hurricanes, they often bring life-threatening flooding and dangerous winds. Take precautions!

2010 PREDICTIONS

STORMS 15

LANDFALLS 7

HURRICANES 5

MAJOR 3

2010 TROPICAL CYCLONE NAMES

ALEX
BONNIE
COLIN
DANIELLE
EARL
FIONA
GASTON
HERMINE
IGOR
JULIA
KARL
LISA
MATTHEW
NICOLE
OTTO
PAULA
RICHARD
SHARY
TOMAS
VIRGINIE
WALTER

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

American Red Cross

1-877-272-7337

NASCC Emergency OPS Center

1-361-961-2953 (24 hrs/day)

NASCC Hurricane Line

1-877-989-6743

WEATHER SAFETY : HURRICANES

Before the Hurricane Season

- Determine safe evacuation routes inland
- Learn location of official shelters (Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX)
- Make emergency plans for pets
- Check emergency equipment (i.e. flashlights, generators, battery powered weather radios)
- Buy non-perishable food and water
- Buy plywood or other materials to protect your home
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts
- Decide where to move your boat in an emergency
- Review your insurance policy
- Trim trees and shrubbery
- Stock up on batteries, first aid supplies, and medications

During a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch

- Listen to radio, TV or NOAA weather radio for bulletins and updates
- Fuel and service your vehicles
- Board up windows in case the storm moves quickly and you have to evacuate
- Store lawn furniture and other loose, light-weight objects, such as garbage cans and garden tools
- Have cash on hand in case power goes out and ATMs don't work
- Make hotel reservations if planning on evacuating. They fill up very fast.
- Plan to evacuate if you live on a coastline, an offshore island or near a river or flood plain, or live in a high-rise or a mobile home

During a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning

- Follow instructions issued by local officials. **Leave immediately if ordered.**
- If evacuating, leave as soon as possible. Stay with friends or relatives, at a low-rise inland motel or at a designated public shelter outside the flood zone.
- Notify neighbors, your command OMBUDSMAN and a family member of your evacuation plans**
- Take pets with you if possible, but remember most public shelters do not allow pets other than those used by the handicapped. Identify pet-friendly motels along your evacuation route.

WEATHER SAFETY : HURRICANES

EMERGENCY SHELTER: LACKLAND AFB

Once an Evacuation Order has been issued by the CO of NASCC, Lackland AFB in San Antonio will open up housing (space to sleep), dining (3 hot meals) and medical facilities to NASCC personnel and their families. Cats and dogs will be kenneled on base in tents, but space is very limited. You must bring your own kennel for your pet. The Member is responsible for pet care during the stay at the shelter. Please bring pet food, leash, medications and medical records for each animal. Sorry, NO exotic animals.

Lackland AFB Command Post 210-671-4225

Lackland AFB Police Desk 210-671-2018

Lackland AFB Hospital Emergency Room 210-292-7331

Lackland AFB Disaster Preparedness Office 210-671-3613

****please see TW-4 Hurricane Preparedness Brochure for more information****

AFTER THE STORM

**-DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RETURN UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD IT IS SAFE. CALL NASCC HURRICANE LINE
1-877-989-6743 FOR INFORMATION.**

**-WHEN RETURNING BACK TO CORPUS CHRISTI YOU MAY NEED TO SHOW PROOF OF RESIDENCY
WHICH CAN INCLUDE: PAID UTILITY BILL, COPY OF HOME INSURANCE OR COPY OF PAID PROPERTY
TAXES. IF YOU ARE RENTING, A SIGNED RENTAL LEASE WILL WORK. YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE OR
MILITARY ID WILL NOT WORK.**

**-YOU CAN REQUEST ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE NFAAS OR THE AFPAAS DURING AND AFTER
A MAJOR EVENT. THE NAVY MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY WILL ALSO GIVE OUT LOAN BASED
DEBIT CARDS ONLY FOR WHEN NASCC EVACUATION ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED.**